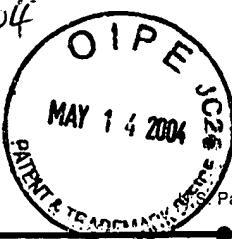


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RCE/2123 #

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Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/520,259
Filing Date	03/07/2000
First Named Inventor	Peter P. Van Bommel
Group Art Unit	2123
Examiner Name	E. Garcia Otero
Attorney Docket Number	94.0027

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTOISB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. ☒ Previously submitted
 i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on 10/08/2003
 (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 iii. ☐ Other _____
 b. ☒ Enclosed
 i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
 ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 iv. ☐ Other _____

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2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
 b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 07-1078

- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
 ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
 iii. ☐ Other _____

05/18/2004 HALI11 00000066 071078 09520259
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- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed
 c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Danita J.M. Maseles	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	33,419
Signature		Date	May 14, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: Express Mail No. ER 893953729 US

Name (Print/Type)	Danita J.M. Maseles	Date	May 14, 2004
Signature			

Send to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450